



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

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SEVEN YEAR PRISON SENTENCE IMPOSED FOR TRANSPORTING MARIJUANA FOR SALE AND CARRYING A FIREARM IN CONNECTION WITH DRUG TRAFFICKING.

TUCSON, Ariz. – Scott Wayne Tomlin, 24, of Tucson, was sentenced here Monday to a total of 84 months in federal prison by U.S. District Judge John M. Roll. Tomlin had pleaded guilty on June 29, 2006 to the two-count indictment charging him with Possession with Intent to Distribute 95 kilograms of Marijuana and Use and Carrying of a Firearm During and in Relation to a Drug Trafficking Offense.

In the course of his guilty plea, Tomlin admitted the following facts: On March 13, 2006, Tomlin was driving a vehicle in Southern Arizona and was stopped by a U.S. Border Patrol agent. The agent noticed burlap fibers on Tomlin's sweater, which is consistent with the burlap sacks that are often used to transport marijuana from Mexico into the United States. After noticing a large knife on the passenger seat, the agent asked Tomlin if he had any weapons in the vehicle. Tomlin admitted there was a gun in the glovebox, which was located and identified as a 9mm Taurus. The agent asked for consent to look in the trunk of the vehicle, and Tomlin refused. A drug detection dog responded to the scene and alerted to the vehicle for the presence of contraband. Approximately 95 kilograms of marijuana wrapped in burlap was located in the trunk. Tomlin then admitted that he had picked up the marijuana on the side of the road and was waiting for further delivery instructions by cell phone. He admitted that he intended to deliver the marijuana to another person and would be paid for his involvement. He also admitted that he was carrying the firearm for protection. Tomlin further admitted that he had picked up and transported approximately six similar loads of marijuana during the previous year.

The investigation in this case was jointly conducted by the United States Border Patrol, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution was handled by Jennifer J. Maldonado, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-0735-TUC-JMR
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